



# PRESS RELEASE

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## For Immediate Release

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## Contact Person

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Stephen P. Sinnott, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Andre R. Lasieur, DOB: 5/3/76, of the Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation (LCO) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin, pleaded guilty yesterday afternoon in U.S. District Court in Madison to a charge that he conspired with other members of the Latin King Nation to distribute cocaine and crack cocaine on and around the LCO Reservation. Lasieur faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison without parole. Chief Judge Barbara B. Crabb scheduled sentencing for October 20, 2005, at 1:00 p.m.

The government's proof at the guilty plea hearing established that Lasieur was a member of the Latin King Nation on the LCO Reservation during the time period of the conspiracy (1999-2003). From approximately 1999 until 2001, Lasieur was the "Inca" and, as such, was the leader of the gang. Gang meetings were held at his house on the LCO Reservation during which drugs were handed out for members to sell and money from the drug sales was collected, along with dues to the Latin King Nation.

Thirty-two individuals have previously been sentenced as a result of this long-term investigation being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation-Narcotics Bureau,

and the Sawyer County Sheriff's Department. Lasieur was one of eleven defendants named in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Madison on March 22, 2005. Nine defendants remain scheduled for trial beginning on December 5, 2005. Prosecution of these cases has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney John W. Vaudreuil.

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